

Access statement for Hinckley & District Museum

Introduction

We aim to provide an excellent service to all visitors and continually strive to improve. We are a small volunteer run museum and aim to enable as many people as possible to enjoy our history. We currently offer:

Pre-Arrival

- A website www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk
- An email address to answer your enquiries.
- Bus stops for local services and the Leicester – Nuneaton – Coventry buses (Arriva 158 and Stagecoach 10 and 48) are within view of the museum, and the town bus station is within 10 minutes walk.
- Railway station (Leicester – Birmingham line) is within 15-20 minutes walk (there is a taxi office at the station).

Arrival and Car Parking Facilities

- Free car parking in car park located between the museum and the undertaker`s premises subject to availability (the car park is not owned, managed or maintained by the museum). The car park is on a steep slope.
- Limited on-street parking opposite the museum: Monday to Saturday 30 minutes, no time restriction on a Sunday.
- Large long-stay Council pay-and-display car park adjacent to the museum (free of charge on Sundays and Bank Holidays).
- Drop off outside the museum entrance. The road is busy and off road parking is recommended.

Main Entrance and Reception

- Direct access from busy pavement into the museum.
- 4 brick steps up from the pavement at main entrance with hand rails at each side.
- The inward opening 36.5 inch wide entrance door is always open during opening hours.
- There is a side entrance suitable for wheelchairs – please ask in advance of your visit if possible to enable help to be on hand. This entrance takes visitors through a garage and a paved area of garden to enter the museum at the rear of the building.

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- There is a charge for entry to the museum (£1 adults, 50p children; prices may vary on event days; minimum charge of £10 for a pre-booked group visit) payable at the reception counter.
- All internal doors are open during opening hours.

Public Areas - General (Internal)

- Flooring, except entrance hall, toilet and upstairs gallery, is carpeted.
- Level access through 42 inch wide opening into main gallery on ground floor.
- 2 internal steps up to extra display area, toilet and tearoom.
- Wooden stairs to first floor display areas, with handrails on both sides.
- There is seating provided in all display areas.
- All windows are curtained to protect contents from sun damage.
- Lighting is provided by spotlights and other electric lights throughout.
- All internal doors are open during museum open hours.

Public Areas – WC

- There is one small unisex wc (no wheelchair access) on the ground floor.
- Toilet door is inward opening and 25 inches wide.
- There is no alarm call system.
- The nearest disabled access toilets are located in the Atkins Building opposite the museum (not usually open on Sundays and Bank Holidays). Also in Station Road and in Hinckley Library, Lancaster Road, both approximately 5 - 10 minutes from the museum – neither are open on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Public Areas – Tearoom

- Located on ground floor accessible by 2 steps up from the entrance hall (ramp available) and through display areas.
- 3 internal doors - 1 is 31.5 inches wide, and 2 are 28 inches wide.
- Light refreshments (biscuits, cakes, crisps) and beverages (tea, coffee, hot chocolate, soup, fruit juice) are served, many of which are Fairtrade products.
- No alcohol is served.
- The tearoom staff take orders at your chosen table.

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Public Areas – Shop

- A small sales area is in the entrance hall, selling souvenirs, postcards, leaflets and local history publications.
- Staff take payment at the reception counter.
- Cash and cheque payments only accepted.

Displays

- Interpretation boards are all in large text and have pictorial representation where appropriate.
- There are items displayed in a variety of glass cabinets.
- Lighting is provided to each display and is directed towards the display or within the cabinets as appropriate.
- Some cabinets will not be internally lit if the contents are fragile.
- When appropriate, folders are available in the main gallery on the ground floor containing information relating to displays on the first floor for those unable to negotiate the stairs.
- Folders of additional information will accompany displays as appropriate.
- A 4 seat viewing area is on the ground floor, up 2 steps from the entrance hall, where a selection of short video films may be seen. On busy days the films will be shown continuously, otherwise they are shown on demand (a list is on display).
- Staff are available to help visitors with any enquiries about items on display.

Public Areas – Garden

- The garden is at the rear of the museum building and cannot be seen from the road. It is planted with traditional cottage garden plants.
- There is a paved area running the length of the building.
- 4 brick steps with wooden handrail to one side, opposite the garden entrance door from the museum, lead up to the lawned areas. There is also another set of 5 brick and slab steps with no handrails, at one end of the garden.
- There is seating provided in the garden, and in the summer refreshments may be taken into the garden.

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Additional Information

- Guide dogs are welcome within the museum and garden.
- Smoking is not permitted inside the museum or in the garden.
- Staff are available throughout the museum to assist visitors.
- Please switch off mobile phones when in the museum and garden.

Contact Information

Telephone 01455 251218 (out-going message only when closed).

Email hinckleymuseum@hotmail.co.uk

Website www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk

Address Hinckley & District Museum
Framework Knitters` Cottages
Lower Bond Street
Hinckley
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Opening hours: From Easter Monday to the end of October on
Saturdays & Bank Holiday Mondays 10am – 4pm.
Sundays 2pm – 4pm.
Mondays May to August (which are not Bank
Holidays) 11am – 3pm.
Last admission 30 minutes before closing time.

Local public transport: Bus information tel. 0871 200 22 33
Train information tel. 08457 48 49 50

Accessible taxis: Fosseway Cars tel. 01455 456789

We welcome your feedback to help us continually improve our services to visitors. Please add your comments to the Visitors Book at the reception desk, or send them to us by post or email (addresses above).